



# Te Kaahui o Rauru

FTA-2054

**BEFORE THE EXPERT PANEL**

**UNDER** the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

**IN THE MATTER OF** the Taranaki VTM Project

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**RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FOR TE  
KAAHUI O RAURU TRUST**

**14 NOVEMBER 2025**

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*Mai te rangi ki te whenua, mai uta ki tai, ko nga mea katoa e tapu ana, Ngaa Rauru  
Kiitahi kia mau, kia ita.*

## INTRODUCTION

1. Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust (the **Trust**) provides the information below and in the **attached** appendix in response to Minute 12 issued by the Panel for the Trans-Tasman Resources' Application (the **Application**) seeking fast-track approvals for marine consents in relation to the Taranaki VTM Project (the **Project**) under the Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024 (the **FTAA**).
2. This information has been provided by:
  - (a) Tahinganui Hina – Tumu Whakarae of Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust; and
  - (b) Renée Bradley – Tumu Whakahaere of the Trust.
3. This information is provided for and on behalf of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi and the Trust, as the post-settlement governance entity (together, **Te Kaahui o Rauru**) and should be read in conjunction with our written comment, oral presentation at the three-day conference in Haawera and our legal submissions filed to date.

## POSITION OF TE KAAHUI O RAURU IN RESPECT OF THE APPLICATION AND PROCESS

*Ko te mouri moana, ko te mouri whenua, ko te mouri wai, ko te mouri ora o Rauru*

4. We reiterate our long-held, consistent and strong opposition to the Project. Our Ngaa Raurutanga defines our enduring and inextricable connection to Tangaroa. Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi has always practised Ngaa Raurutanga, including kaitiakitanga, in respect of the moana in our rohe and continues to do so. It provides Nga Rauru Kiitahi whaanau with kai, medicine (rongoaa), a place to live, recreation, learning and whanaungatanga. These rights and responsibilities and the Treaty relationship must be protected.

5. In summary, the most significant effects of the proposed mining activity to us are:
- (a) the impact of the sediment plume on the marine environment (including, but not limited to, reef structures and eco systems);<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) the proposed and potential adverse effects on the seabed, subsoil, benthic biota, marine species and their habitats;<sup>2</sup> and
  - (c) the use of heavy equipment, fuels, artificial light and noise (among other things) on marine species.<sup>3</sup>
6. Our review of and experience with this Application and all previous iterations of it lead us to reject the Application and the establishment of this seabed mining activity the moana in South Taranaki. We are not assured that the project can be undertaken without significant adverse effects on our moana. This position has been amplified by the Applicant's failure to engage meaningfully with Te Kaahui o Rauru in relation to this latest Application, leaving us with no confidence in its claims or in any proposed conditions.
7. We also record our opposition to the use of the FTAA process by the applicant in this matter. As already recorded in our written comment, engagement and meaningful discussions to date have been essentially non-existent and an afterthought. We also consider that this process under the FTAA does not properly provide for the expression of tikanga nor provide those making decisions with the ability to truly understand and appreciate our Ngaa Raurutanga. This includes our tono to the panel and the applicant to return to our rohe for proper engagement with Ngaa Rauru and other affected whanaunga in our rohe, as was made clear at the three-day conference in Haawera.
8. The level of uncertainty that remains in the Application is alarming. We consider that there is insufficient information provided by the applicant to demonstrate that such effects (actual or potential) will not be serious or long-

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<sup>1</sup> The Application, section 5.3 (Sedimentation and Optical Water Quality Effects); 5.4 (Effects on Coastal Processes); 5.11 (Visual, Seascape and Natural Character Effects).

<sup>2</sup> The Application, section 5.5 (Benthic Ecology and Primary Productivity Effects); 5.6 (Fished Species); 5.7 (Seabirds); 5.8 (Marine Mammals).

<sup>3</sup> The Application, section 5.6 (Fished Species); 5.7 (Seabirds); 5.8 (Marine Mammals); 5.9 (Noise Effects); 5.12 (Air Quality Effects).

lived. Te Kaahui o Rauru does not believe that this uncertainty has been reduced since the previous applications. The applicant has shown little regard for the need to respond to or provide updated information and evidence on effects (actual or potential) and this is of significant concern to us. The flow on impacts of the effects on the domain of Tangaroa on the people who are intrinsically connected with and who rely on and are responsible to those eco systems is alarming – “mai te rangi ki te whenua, mai uta ki tai, ko nga mea katoa e tapu ana, Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi ki a mau, ki a ita”.


9. Our position has been, and always will be, that until there is undisputed evidence that the recognised damage or negative effects created by seabed mining can be appropriately restored, the Panel must favour caution and environmental protection. On that basis, our view is that the only possible conclusion is for the Application be declined.
10. Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi clearly has existing interests, rights, responsibilities and a relationship with the marine environment in which the proposed mining activity will operate – as derived from, and continuously expressed by, our Ngaa Raurutanga. Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi has ancient customary rights, responsibilities, interests and practices that require protection for present and future generations – evidenced by the koorero, karakia, waiata, places, place names (among other things) throughout the onshore and offshore environment of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi.
11. It is simply inconsistent with the obligations inherent in our kaitiakitanga, mana motuhake and rangatiratanga for this project to proceed.
12. Our further responses to Minute 12 issued by the Panel are set out in the **attached** Appendix.

**DATED** 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tahinganui Hina' followed by 'Renee Bradley' in a cursive script.

**Tahinganui Hina / Renee Bradley**

## APPENDIX – RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FOR TE KAAHUI O RAURU TRUST

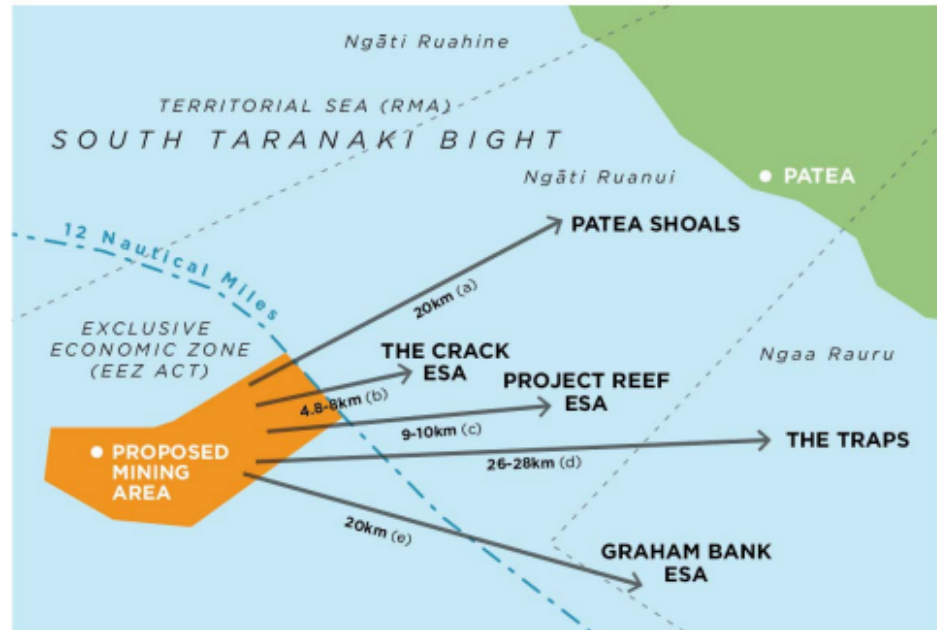
Question	Answer
<p><b>Mana whenua rohe – a. Rohe Instruments:</b> If your rohe is supported by a Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA) application, Customary Marine Title or Protected Customary Rights order, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a copy of the application, or the title/reference number if a copy is not available;</li> <li>• a map of the proposed recognised area; and</li> <li>• the status of any determination or hearing (for example pending, resolved, withdrawn).</li> </ul>	<p><b>A copy of the application:</b> High Court Application for Recognition Orders, CIV-2017-485-183 (Groups N and O): <a href="#">CIV-2017-485-000183 Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust</a></p> <p><b>A map of the proposed recognised area:</b> Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust Map, Application Number MAC-01-10-05: Te Tari Whakatau – <a href="https://arcg.is/iWy0S">https://arcg.is/iWy0S</a></p>  <p><b>The status of any determination or hearing:</b> A hearing for Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust's MACA application remains pending as preparatory work remains in train.</p> <p>For completeness, we also refer to the diagram prepared by the iwi parties that outlines the EPA's decision-making committee findings on adverse effects in relation to each iwi's rohe, including adverse effects on the proposed recognised area in our MACA application. This diagram is included in Appendix 3 of the Supreme Court decision:<sup>1</sup></p>

<sup>1</sup> See [2021] NZSC 127 at Appendix 3.

## Question

## Answer

## DMC's Findings On Effects



ESA	DMC Finding on Effect	Ref to DMC Decision
PATEA SHOALS	Moderate effect	At [350]
	Significant effect	At [970]
THE CRACK	Significant effect	At [968]
	Effects of concern	At [350]
	Effects including temporary or permanent displacement of species	At [970]
	Major effect	At [406]
THE PROJECT REEF	Significant effect	At [437]
	Major effect	At [980]
	Major effect	At [952]

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Question	Answer											
	<table><tr><th>ESA</th><th>DMC Finding on Effect</th><th>Ref to DMC Decision</th></tr><tr><td>THE TRAPS</td><td>Minor effect</td><td>At [970]</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">GRAHAM BANK</td><td>Significant adverse effect</td><td>At [350] At [940] At [970]</td></tr><tr><td>Effects including temporary or permanent displacement of species</td><td>At [437] At [980]</td></tr></table> <p>The Traps, Graham Bank and the “Project Reef” are identified as being within the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi rohe. In particular, significant adverse effects from the project are identified in relation to Graham Bank, within our rohe and <b>within the proposed recognised area in our MACA application.</b><sup>2</sup> We note the following comment from the DMC in paragraph 940:</p> <p><i>“The Traps, Graham Bank and The “Project Reef” are all within Ngaa Rauru’s rohe. In relation to Ngaa Rauru, there are likely to be adverse effects such as avoidance by fish in areas towards the outer edge of the CMA such as Graham Bank and this area will at times have significant reductions in light, affecting primary production levels. Kaimoana gathering sites on nearshore reefs are likely to be subject to minor or negligible impacts given that background SSC is typically elevated in the nearshore area. Impacts may be moderate towards the western end of the rohe, but minor or negligible elsewhere.”</i></p>	ESA	DMC Finding on Effect	Ref to DMC Decision	THE TRAPS	Minor effect	At [970]	GRAHAM BANK	Significant adverse effect	At [350] At [940] At [970]	Effects including temporary or permanent displacement of species	At [437] At [980]
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<p><b>Treaty Settlement Instruments – a. Treaty Settlement Acts and Deeds (including any amended deeds):</b> For the settlement instruments that apply to your rohe and are relevant to this project, please provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>copies of the Acts or Deeds you consider engaged by this application;</li><li>a brief description of the key provisions, schedules or maps that relate to the project area (with references); and</li><li>any documents referred to in the settlement that legislation requires Crown or local</li></ul>	<p><b>Copies of the Acts or Deeds you consider engaged by this application:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Deed of Settlement dated 27 November 2003</a></li><li><a href="#">Schedules to the Ngaa Rauru Deed of Settlement dated 27 November 2003</a></li><li><a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Deed of Recognition 26 Jul 2005</a></li><li><a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Claims Settlement Act 2005 No 84 (as at 12 April 2022), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation</a></li><li><a href="#">Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Settlement dated 23 September 1992</a></li><li><a href="#">Te Awa Tupua (Whanganui River Claims Settlement) Act 2017 No 7 (as at 27 August 2025), Public Act – New Zealand Legislation</a></li><li><a href="#">Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025/Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025 No 1, Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation</a></li></ul> <p><b>A brief description of the key provisions, schedules or maps that relate to the project area (with references):</b></p> <p>We note that the Project Area, and the significant adverse effects of the Project, intersect with the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi rohe across a number of settlement mechanisms, including through our Fisheries Settlement interests and our coastal statutory acknowledgement and our preferential right to purchase coastal authorisations up for tender within our shellfish RFR area. As above, we refer to the diagram prepared by the iwi parties that outlines the EPA’s decision-making committee findings on adverse effects in relation to our rohe, including adverse</p>											

<sup>2</sup> See [EPA’s DMC decision, dated 3 August 2017](#) at [350], [940] and [970].

<p>authority decision-makers to consider, recognise or provide for when making decisions.</p>	<p>effects on the proposed recognised area in our coastal area of interest. This diagram is included in Appendix 3 of the Supreme Court decision:<sup>3</sup></p> <p>The Project Area, and the significant adverse effects of the Project, intersect with the following mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Preface of the Deed</b> – sets out the origins of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi according to its oral traditions, the rohe of Ngaa Rauru at 1840, and the relationship of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi with the Whanganui River.<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• <b>Three Aims of the Settlement</b> – (a) to assist to restore the honour of the Crown; (b) to help tell the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi story; and (c) to assist in the revitalisation of Ngaa Raurutanga.<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• <b>Statement of Ngaa Raurutanga</b> – Ngaa Raurutanga is the term used by Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi to describe those values, rights and responsibilities Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi holds according to custom, including the values, rights and responsibilities recognised by Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and its principles.<sup>6</sup></li> <li>• <b>Settlement does not affect Fisheries Settlement</b> – Nothing in the Settlement is intended to affect any decision, proposal or report of Te Ohu Kai Moana under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004, the 1992 Fisheries Deed, or the Treaty of Waitangi (Fisheries Claims) Settlement Act.<sup>7</sup></li> <li>• <b>Coastal Marine Area Statutory Acknowledgment</b> – The Crown acknowledges the statement by Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi of the cultural, spiritual, historical and traditional association of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi with the Coastal Marine Area adjoining the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi area of interest.<sup>8</sup></li> <li>• <b>Statutory Associations</b> – the Minister of Conservation entered into a Deed of Recognition with Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi, in which the Crown acknowledged the statements of association in respect of the Patea River, the Whenuakura River and the Waitotara River – the mouths of which are all located in the South Taranaki Bight.<sup>9</sup></li> <li>• <b>Excess Shellfish Quota</b> - Te Kaahu o Rauru Trust has consent to hold excess shellfish quota (excess beyond permitted quota under the Fisheries Act 1996 that is purchased by Te Kaahui o Rauru under their first right of refusal and includes the quota received from Te Ohu Kaimoana).<sup>10</sup></li> <li>• <b>Preferential right to purchase coastal authorisations under the RMA</b> - Te Kaahui o Rauru Trust has a preferential right to purchase coastal authorisations up for tender within the shellfish RFR area (sections 105 and 106) (this includes the ability to remove any sand, shell, shingle, or other natural material from the land and/or reclaim or drain any of the land that is foreshore and seabed – s 152, RMA). This amends s 165R of the RMA (which provides that an authorisation does not confer any right to grant a coastal permit – as ss 105 and 106 carve out a <b>preferential right for Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi</b>). A map of the shellfish RFR area is set out in the Schedule to the Deed of Settlement, at page 145.<sup>11</sup></li> <li>• <b>Protocol with Department of Conservation</b>, including in relation to marine mammals, marine reserves and related matters in relation to our area of interest, <b>which includes the coastal waters adjacent to our area of interest</b>.<sup>12</sup> This Protocol is a reflection of both our Te Tiriti o Waitangi relationship with the Crown and our existing role and interests as kaitiaki in our rohe, including in our rohe moana.</li> <li>• <b>Fisheries Protocol</b> (see below).</li> <li>• <b>Other:</b> A number of other provisions within the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Deed of Settlement related to fisheries. As part of the Deed of Settlement Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi were appointed as Advisory Committees to the Minister of Conservation and Fisheries to provide advice on the management of fisheries in the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi area of interest, including on the customary interest of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi in those fisheries. A further provision within the Deed of Settlement related to the prohibition of certain species for commercial purposes including:</li> </ul>
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Question	Answer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cats eye, <i>turbo smaragdus</i> (pupu);</li> <li>- freshwater mussel, <i>hyridella menziesi</i> (kakahi);</li> <li>- sea anemone, <i>actinia group</i> (kotoretore);</li> <li>- sea cucumber, <i>stichopus mollis</i> (rori);</li> <li>- shield shell, <i>scutus brevicuius</i> (rori) (which includes ngutungutukaka);</li> <li>- seawater mussel, <i>perna canaliculus</i>! <i>mytilus edulis</i> and <i>mytilus eclulis</i> (kuku); and</li> <li>- freshwater crayfish, <i>paranephrops planifrons</i> (waikoura).<sup>13</sup></li> </ul>
<b>Treaty Settlement Instruments – b. Formal explanatory material:</b> Any relevant Select Committee reports or Hansard extracts (links are sufficient).	<a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Claims Settlement Bill   Beehive.govt.nz</a>
<b>Treaty Settlement Instruments – c. Protocol operation:</b> Examples of Fisheries Protocol engagement with Crown agencies relevant to your rohe moana (for example, notices, consultation letters). Links or short extracts are sufficient. If none, state “not held”.	<p><b>See Fisheries Protocol:</b></p> <p><b>Part 2, Relationships Schedule to the Deed of Settlement:</b> Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi has a Fisheries Protocol issued by the Crown through the Minister of Fisheries regarding interaction with Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi on Fisheries Matters.<sup>14</sup> This Protocol is a reflection of both our Te Tiriti o Waitangi relationship with the Crown and our existing role and interests as kaitiaki in our rohe, including in our rohe moana. This includes the following matters:</p>

<sup>3</sup> See [\[2021\] NZSC 127](#) at Appendix 3.

<sup>4</sup> Pages 2 to 4, Deed of Settlement. Refer to para 16-23 (origins) and 31-35 (Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi rohe) of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley. Refer to statement: Turama Hawira.

<sup>5</sup> Clause 2.2 of Deed of Settlement. Refer to para 19 of statement: Te Huia Bill Hamilton.

<sup>6</sup> Clauses 2.9-2.13 of Deed of Settlement. Refer to paras 37-40 of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>7</sup> Clause 2.14.1 of the Deed of Settlement.

<sup>8</sup> Section 40 and Schedule 5 of the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Claims Settlement Act 2005; Clause 11.14 and Part 4, Cultural Redress Schedule, Deed of Settlement. Refer to paras 42-44 of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>9</sup> Clause 11.23 and Part 4, Cultural Redress Schedule, Deed of Settlement; Deed of Recognition, dated 26 July 2005. Refer to paras 45-49 of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>10</sup> Sections 103 and 104 of Ngaa Rauru Claims Settlement Act 2005.

<sup>11</sup> Sections 105 - 112 of Ngaa Rauru Claims Settlement Act 2005.

<sup>12</sup> DOC Protocol, Part 2 Deed of Settlement at page 10.

<sup>13</sup> *Deed of Settlement of the Historical Claims of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi*, 2003, p.98, Clause 12.1:

<https://www.govt.nz/assets/Documents/OTS/Ngaa-Rauru-Kiitahi/Ngaa-Rauru-Kiitahi-Deed-of-Settlement-27-Nov-2003.pdf>

<sup>14</sup> Clause 9.7 of Part 2, Relationships Schedule to the Deed of Settlement.

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Question	Answer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recognition of the interests of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi in all species of fish, aquatic life or seaweed that exist within the Fisheries Protocol Area;</li> <li>• development of sustainability measures, fisheries regulations and fisheries plans;</li> <li>• customary non-commercial fisheries management;</li> <li>• research planning;</li> <li>• nature and extent of fisheries services;</li> <li>• contracting for services;</li> <li>• employment of staff with customary non-commercial fisheries responsibilities;</li> <li>• rahui; and</li> <li>• changes to policy and legislation affecting the Protocol.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Iwi and Hapū Planning Documents – a. Iwi Management Plan, Hapū Environmental Plan, or PSGE planning document (relevant to your rohe moana or the project area):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the document name and date of adoption;</li> <li>• a link or copy. If a public copy is not available, provide a short summary or extract covering marine/freshwater values, objectives and policies.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Te Kaahui o Rauru Puutaiao Management Plan</a> (updated 2025 version) - This is our updated iwi environmental management plan for the purposes of the RMA 1991 that has yet to be lodged with local authorities.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi, Puutaiao Management Plan 2012</a>:<sup>15</sup> This is our previous iwi environmental management plan for the purposes of the RMA 1991 and must be taken into account by the relevant regional/territorial authorities.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Climate Change Strategy – Ka Mate Kaainga Tahī, Ka Ora Kaainga Rua, dated August 2022</a>:<sup>16</sup> This is our internal iwi climate change strategy. As a predominantly coastal iwi, we must grapple with the effects of climate change on our rohe on a regular basis. This strategy sets out our Te Kawa Ora framework, to assist with our decision-making in respect of climate-related issues, such as: relocation of coastal marae and freshwater monitoring.</li> <li>• <a href="#">Te Kaahui o Rauru Strategic Plan to 31 March 2034, February 2015</a>:<sup>17</sup> this is our internal iwi strategic plan from December 2019 – 31 March 2024, which is used to set our strategic priorities as an iwi. Our core priorities include (a) the revitalisation of our Ngaa Raurutanga, as defined in our Settlement; (b) to sustain our natural environment and build uki capability and capacity in tiakitanga, including uki involvement in the review of our environmental management plan and the fisheries plan; (c) to ensure economic sustainability, which includes the growth and protection of our tribal assets.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Iwi and Hapū Planning Documents – b. Status:</b> Confirm whether the plan has been lodged with local authorities and whether they must have regard to it under ss 61(2A)(a), 66(2A)(a) and 74(2A) of</p>	<p>The previous Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi Puutaiao Management Plan has been lodged with Horizons Regional Council but the most recent 2025 version has just been updated and is yet to be lodged.<sup>18</sup> Both Horizons and Taranaki Regional Councils are required to have regard to it under s 61(2A)(a) and 66(2A)(a) of the RMA 1991 – as Te Kaahui o Rauru is the recognised iwi authority on behalf of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi for the purposes of the RMA 1991. Whanganui District Council and the South Taranaki District Council are the territorial authorities that must take into account our Puutaiao Management Plan: s 74(2A) of the RMA 1991.</p>

<sup>15</sup> Note this is currently under review. Refer to para 119(c) of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>16</sup> Refer to paras 100-113 of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>17</sup> See generally our vision for the continued exercise of Ngaa Raurutanga: paras 99-128 of joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>18</sup> See “Current Iwi and Hapū Management Plans”: <https://www.horizons.govt.nz/about-our-region-and-council/iwi-and-hapu/iwi-and-hapu-management-plans>.

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Question	Answer
the Resource Management Act 1991.	

<p><b>Tikanga and Kaitiakitanga Practice – a. Kaitiakitanga practice and indicators:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide material that shows how kaitiakitanga is exercised in your rohe moana (for example monitoring approaches, indicators, MoUs or hui records).</li> <li>• Note where any monitoring information is held.</li> </ul>	<p>Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi practice tiakitanga in our rohe every day, as expressed by our whanau, our hapuu, our marae and our people at place. This includes our customary fishers, our divers, our hapuu and iwi who look after the rohe moana.</p> <p>Te Kaahui o Rauru practices tiakitanga over the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi rohe (as defined in the Settlement) by acting in its many representative capacities, including:<sup>19</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• as the post-settlement governance entity (<b>PSGE</b>);</li> <li>• as the mandated iwi organisation under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004;</li> <li>• as an iwi authority for the purposes of the RMA 1991; and</li> <li>• as an applicant group under MACA.</li> </ul> <p>Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi is also a member of the Taranaki Maunga Iwi<sup>20</sup> and Te Awa Tupua Iwi.<sup>21</sup></p> <p>The practice of our tiakitanga is demonstrated by the following examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Preparing our kaainga rua:</b> Preparing for the possible relocation of coastal marae, either further down the coastline and/or inland due to effects of climate change.<sup>22</sup></li> <li>• <b>Implementing Te Kawa Ora:</b> Applying Te Kawa Ora as the framework for decision-making to prepare our kaainga rua against the effects of climate change in relation to: water and food security, revitalisation of biodiversity, energy sustainability, and managed retreat (due to being a predominantly coastal iwi).<sup>23</sup></li> <li>• <b>Commercial fishing interests:</b> Our fisheries settlement asset-holding company (Te Pātaka o Tangaroa) participates in Te Pātaka Whata (Egmont Seafoods) and Te Tai Hauāuru Deepwater Pātaka Pilot – working with other iwi, Sealord, Moana New Zealand Ltd and TOKM.<sup>24</sup></li> <li>• <b>Prohibition on commercial fisheries:</b> The Deed of Settlement includes prohibition of certain species for commercial purposes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- cats eye, <i>turbo smaragdus</i> (pupu);</li> <li>- freshwater mussel, <i>hyridella menziesi</i> (kakahi);</li> <li>- sea anemone, <i>actinia group</i> (kotoretore);</li> <li>- sea cucumber, <i>stichopus mollis</i> (rori);</li> <li>- shield shell, <i>scutus brevicuius</i> (rori) (which includes ngutungutukaka);</li> <li>- seawater mussel, <i>perna canaliculus</i>/<i>mytilus edulis</i> and <i>mytilus eclulis</i> (kuku); and</li> <li>- freshwater crayfish, <i>paranephrops planifrons</i> (waikoura).<sup>25</sup></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Other restrictions in our coastal waters:</b> There are some restrictions in relation to the types of trawling that can take place within the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi coastal area.<sup>26</sup> The use of any Danish seine net by commercial fishers is prohibited in the lower North Island including in the takutai moana.<sup>27</sup> There is also a voluntary ban on all pair trawling within four nautical miles off the coast and a further voluntary ban on single trawling within two nautical miles of the coast from Cape Egmont to the north of the Rangitikei River.<sup>28</sup> There are also restrictions on commercial and recreational set-nets to protect Hector's and Mā dolphins.</li> <li>• <b>Customary fisheries:</b> As a coastal people, our people are regular fishers, divers and gatherers all along our coastline. This includes inshore and offshore through the customary use of waka and boats. Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi's customary association with our coastal area from Te Awanui o Taiehu (Patea River) to Te Kaihau-a-Kupe (Whanganui River mouth) as set out in our Deed of Settlement refers to oral accounts which identified the following kaimoana as being available in the coastal area, which are managed and monitored through a customary lens as well as through other regulatory methods: "shark, stingray, snapper, pupu (cats eye), kakahi (freshwater mussels), kotoretore (sea anemone), rori (sea cucumber), rori – includes</li> </ul>
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## APPENDIX – RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FOR TE KAAHUI O RAURU TRUST

Question	Answer
	<p>ngutungutukaka (shield shell), kuku (seawater mussel, green lipped mussel), waikoura (freshwater crayfish), hāpuka, pātiki (flounder), sole, kanae (yellow eyed mullet), para (frost fish), whake (octopus), kingfish, Tuangi (NZ cockle), scallops, pipi and crab.”<sup>29</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sustainability initiatives:</b> including the delivery of over 30,000 plants in 2023, implementation of our Waitootara Catchment Plan, Freshwater Monitoring Framework (which is near completion), undertaking a review of our Puutaiao Management Plan, and supporting whale strandings in our rohe.<sup>30</sup></li> <li>• <b>Delivering for our hapori:</b> to support capacity and capability building, we awarded over 50 education scholarships to uki for secondary school, undergraduate and post-graduate study in 2023/2024, hosted several te tipuranga and puutaiao wānanga within our rohe, and invested in 20.49km fencing to deliver on infrastructure for our hapori in 2023.<sup>31</sup></li> <li>• <b>Exploration of renewable energy:</b> we are in the process of exploring energy alternatives within our rohe (solar, wave, water and wind). As part of this, we have developed relations with key research bodies to build research pathways on energy alternatives to assist us with our decision-making process.<sup>32</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>Tikanga and Kaitiakitanga Practice – b. Projects:</b> Provide brief notes or links on current kaupapa, projects or agreements that demonstrate these practices in action (for example mauri restoration, marine species management, customary take management).</p>	<p><b>Marine mammal management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our <b>Protocol</b> with the Department of Conservation includes provisions relating to marine mammals, marine reserves and related matters in relation to our area of interest, <b>which includes the coastal waters adjacent to our area of interest.</b><sup>33</sup> This Protocol is a reflection of both our Te Tiriti o Waitangi relationship with the Crown and our existing role and interests as kaitiaki in our rohe, including in our rohe moana. We are regularly engaged to care for and respond to marine mammal issues, including most recently two separate strandings within our rohe. When these whales were unable to be saved, customary harvest was undertaken under our kawa and tikanga.</li> </ul> <p><b>Taranaki Regional Council – freshwater monitoring</b></p>

<sup>19</sup> Refer to para 26 of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>20</sup> Section 10 of the [Te Ture Whakatupua mō Te Kāhui Tupua 2025/Taranaki Maunga Collective Redress Act 2025 No 1, Public Act – New Zealand Legislation](#).

<sup>21</sup> Section 7 of the [Te Awa Tupua \(Whanganui River Claims Settlement\) Act 2017 No 7 \(as at 27 August 2025\), Public Act – New Zealand Legislation](#).

<sup>22</sup> Refer to para 105 of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>23</sup> Refer to para 113 of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>24</sup> Refer to paras 121-125 of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>25</sup> *Deed of Settlement of the Historical Claims of Ngāa Rauru Kīitahi*, 2003, p.98, Clause 12.1:

<https://www.govt.nz/assets/Documents/OTS/Ngaa-Rauru-Kiitahi/Ngaa-Rauru-Kiitahi-Deed-of-Settlement-27-Nov-2003.pdf>

<sup>26</sup> Department of Conservation and the Ministry of Fisheries, *Coastal marine habitats and marine protected areas in the New Zealand Territorial Sea: a broad scale gap analysis*, vol.1 report, Department of Conservation and Ministry of Fisheries, Wellington, 2011, p.27:

<https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-protected-areas/coastal-marine-habitats-marine-protected-areas.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> Froude, V.A., *Area-based restrictions in the New Zealand marine environment*, Department of Conservation, 2004, p.98-99: <https://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/conservation/marine-and-coastal/fishing/area-based-restrictions-hi-res.pdf>

<sup>28</sup> Rush, op cit, p.144.

<sup>29</sup> TRC, *Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki*, TRC, Stratford, 2019, p.204

<sup>30</sup> Refer to para 119(c) of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>31</sup> Refer to para 199(b) and (d) of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>32</sup> Refer to paras 126-128 of the joint statement: Tahinganui Hina and Renée Bradley.

<sup>33</sup> DOC Protocol, Part 2 Deed of Settlement at page 10.

## APPENDIX – RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FOR TE KAAHUI O RAURU TRUST

Question	Answer
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi has partnered with Taranaki Regional Council to improve freshwater monitoring within our rohe. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ training of our uki on the use of the stream health monitoring and assessment kit (SHMAK) developed by NIWA;</li> <li>○ riparian planting; and</li> <li>○ expert technical advice and information to understand the health of our wai so that we can measure and interpret monitoring results in a way that accords with our tiakitanga.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• A video showcasing the Taranaki Regional Council freshwater monitoring partnership with Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi can be accessed here: <a href="https://youtu.be/lhokKZ8PWWQ">https://youtu.be/lhokKZ8PWWQ</a>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Te Wai Koiora Project<sup>34</sup></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi received funding from Te Wai Māori Trust for the Te Wai Koiora project. The purpose of Te Wai Koiora is to restore seven key waterways within Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi to a portable standard and supports hapū and whānau of Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi to become actively involved in the restoration and monitoring of these culturally significant waterways.</li> <li>• The Te Wai Ora funding from Te Wai Māori Trust is helping Te Kaahui o Rauru to implement a pest management and riparian maintenance plan and further develop the waterway health monitoring framework completing e-coli test pilot.</li> </ul> <p><b>Manaaki Whenua – Haumarua Ngaa Taonga</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through Haumarua Ngaa Taonga (formerly Precision Pest Control), we have advanced iwi-led environmental research by embedding iwi values into pest management. To date, 13 kaumaatua have been engaged and 8 formally interviewed (2024: 0 engaged or interviewed), 3 community engagement events have been supported (2024: 0 community engagements), and a database of archival narratives has been established. Two manuscripts have also been drafted, shaping ethical frameworks and creating opportunities through roles and waananga. This kaupapa is strengthening our leadership in taiao protection and positioning iwi-driven science at the forefront of environmental research.</li> </ul> <p><b>Wai Connection – Tatai ki te Wai</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wai Connection engaged over 250 aakonga across six kura (2024: 0 aakonga, 0 kura) through hands-on learning that combined maatauranga Māori and science. Partnerships with Tarapurahi - Bushy Park and The Learning Environment supported kura, marae, and community projects, alongside eDNA sampling and catchment modelling. The programme continues to build future kaitiaki and strengthen community capability to protect and understand our waterways.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Customary Fisheries and Rāhui – a. Customary fisheries (documents or brief note):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• main species, areas and seasons of importance for customary fishing;</li> <li>• a summary table of customary fishing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Refer to MPI's Customary Fisheries Management Areas Map: <a href="#">36876-Customary-Fisheries-Management-Areas</a></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Te Kaahui o Rauru are affiliated to two (2) pātaka that operate within the South Taranaki Bight: Pātaka Whata and the Deepwater Pātaka Pilot.</li> <li>• Pātaka Whata has been in operation since 2010 and focuses on inshore species in collaboration with Egmont Seafoods. Pātaka Whata ensures that</li> </ul>

<sup>34</sup> [Te Kaahui o Rauru – Te Wai Māori.](#)

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Question	Answer
<p>authorisations relevant to the project area or near it;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how harvesting and allocation operate in practice, and any interface between customary take and commercial harvest (for example, commercial vessels harvesting to meet authorisations or involvement of Licensed Fish Receivers);</li> <li>• any pātaka whata (pātaka) or similar formal customary fisheries frameworks operating in or near the project area, including how they are established and notified (if applicable); and</li> <li>• any planned pātaka or similar frameworks in or near the project area, and their current planning status. Indicative information is fine.</li> </ul>	<p>fish are available to whānau/ngā uri o Taranaki Iwi for tangihanga. Further information can be found here: <a href="#">Pātaka Whata - Te Kāhui o Taranaki Iwi</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Te Kaahui o Rauru are actively involved in the establishment of the Te Tai Hauāuru Deepwater Pātaka Pilot, which is being developed in collaboration with other iwi, Sealord, Moana New Zealand Ltd and TOKM.</li> <li>• The current Tāngata Kaikitiaki/Tiaki for Te Kaahui o Rauru are Hayden Potaka and Tahinganui Hina.<sup>35</sup></li> <li>• <b><i>We otherwise refer to, and rely on, the written comments and further response to requests for information from Te Ohu Kaimoana.</i></b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Customary Fisheries and Rāhui – b. Rāhui and temporary closures:</b> Outline any rāhui or tikanga-based restrictions within or near the project footprint. If applicable, identify any temporary closures under s 186A Fisheries Act 1996 (name and dates are sufficient).</p>	<p><b>Refer to MPI's Customary Fisheries Management Areas Map: <a href="#">36876-Customary-Fisheries-Management-Areas</a></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The area/rohe moana of Te Tai Hauāuru is defined in clause 3 of <a href="#">Fisheries (Western Taranaki Temporary Closure) Notice 2024</a>. In his written comment, the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries noted that "[m]ore recently, Taranaki Iwi have used the Regulations to establish a rohe moana that overlays the project area to a significant degree and which may be affected by the sediment plume".<sup>36</sup></li> <li>• On 2 December 2024, the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries decided to temporarily close Western Taranaki, to the take of shellfish (excluding rock lobster), seaweed (except beach cast seaweed), sea anemones, stringrays</li> </ul>

<sup>35</sup> See: Clause 5 of [Fisheries \(Notification of Tāngata Kaitiaki/Tiaki for Area/Rohe Moana of Te Tai Hauāuru\) Notice 2019 \(LI 2019/177\) – New Zealand Legislation](#).

<sup>36</sup> See: Written comment of [Minister-for-Oceans-and-Fisheries.pdf](#) dated 6 October 2025.



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Question	Answer
	and 2 species of conger eel (Conger wilsoni and Conger verreauxi) between 16 December 2024 and 15 December 2026 inclusive. <sup>37</sup>
<b>Customary Fisheries and Rāhui – c. Mātaitai reserves and taiāpure:</b> Identify any existing or proposed mātaitai reserves or taiāpure-local fisheries within or near the project area, and status their status (for example: concept, application with Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ), consultation underway, or gazetted). Include a coarse-scale map if available.	<p><b>Refer to MPI's Customary Fisheries Management Areas Map: <a href="#">36876-Customary-Fisheries-Management-Areas</a></b></p> <p>N/A</p>
<b>Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture – a. Commercial fisheries (forward planning):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>state whether your iwi fisheries its own quota, leases Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE) to others or both;</li> <li>provide an indicative split of quota holdings by origin (Māori Fisheries Act 2004) (MFA) settlement vs other acquisitions) and an indicative split of catch by fisheries category (inshore, deepwater, and, if applicable, highly migratory species). Simply percentages or “mostly inshore / mixed / mostly deepwater” are sufficient;</li> <li>indicate whether catch against those stocks is ordinarily taken in or near the project area, and, if</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Te Pātaka o Tangaroa Ltd (wholly owned by Te Pātaka o Rauru Ltd) holds the relevant fisheries settlement quota on behalf of Ngāa Rauru Kaitiaki, including within Fisheries Management Area 8 (FMA8). The species are mixed and include inshore, deepwater, and highly migratory species (HMS).</li> <li>As above, we have commercial fishing interests in Te Pātaka Whata (Egmont Seafoods) and Te Tai Hauāuru Deepwater Pātaka Pilot – working with other iwi, Sealord, Moana New Zealand Ltd and TOKM.</li> <li>Our mana whenua and mana moana mean we do not have the ability to move beyond our rohe for customary fisheries, in order to provide for our people and express manaakitanga. Any damage or harmful effects to our rohe moana fundamentally constrains our ability to exercise Ngāa Raurutanga, to continue to practice and hand down our maatauranga and to exercise manaakitanga and whanaungatanga.</li> </ul>

<sup>37</sup> See: [Fisheries \(Western Taranaki Temporary Closure\) Notice 2024](#).



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Question	Answer
<p>known, name the relevant Fisheries New Zealand statistical reporting areas or general grounds (indicative information is fine); or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>note any practical or tikanga constraints that would limit shifting commercial fishing between statistical reporting areas, between methods, or beyond your rohe moana.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Commercial Fisheries and Aquaculture – b. Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act (MCACA):</b> Provide any material or a short note on your MSCA interests, including any forward planning for potential use or development and the status of that planning if relevant. Indicative information is fine.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>
<p><b>Relationships/Partnerships – a. Existing arrangements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide copies/links to any partnership agreements or MoUs relevant to the rohe moana or coastal environment, and note whether each is public, confidential, or draft.</li> <li>Identify any co-management, co-governance or joint-management arrangements, and where possible provide the documents or</li> </ul>	<p>If an applicant wishes to apply for a resource consent that overlaps with the Ngaa Rauru Kiitahi rohe, the regional/territorial authority must have regard to our iwi environmental management plan – that is, our <a href="#">Te Kaahui o Rauru Puutaiao Management Plan</a>.</p> <p>Applicants are expected to comply with the engagement process in the Plan.</p> <p>We also have rights and obligations under the Te Awa Tupua and Taranaki Mounga settlements. In terms of our worldview, there is no delineation between Te Kāhui Maunga, Te Awa Tupua, our whenua and our moana. There are simply constructs of western law that divide or demarcate between these spaces.</p> <p>We are currently building relationships with Whanganui District Council and have an MOU with South Taranaki District Council.</p> <p>We have Te Paepae Rangatira with central government, including Te Mata-o-te-Here accord: <a href="#">Te Mata-o-te-Here</a></p>

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Question	Answer
<p>basis establishing them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify any transfer or delegation of functions or powers to your iwi, hapū or PSGE by a local authority or Crown entity (for example under RMA ss 33 or 36B), noting the context and outcome.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Governance and Information-Sharing:</b> provide protocols, terms of reference, data-sharing agreements, template reporting or similar documents that describe roles in monitoring, decision-making and mātauranga-based indicators, including any data guardianship arrangements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have just signed Te Takapou Tupua, a relationship agreement with Tatauranga Aotearoa / Statistics New Zealand.</li> </ul>